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Letter dated 27 November 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith a communiqué issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia following the recent visit to Ethiopia of Abdikasim Hassan Salad, President of the Transitional Government in Somalia (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Abdulmejid **Hussein**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 27 November 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Communiqué

The President of the Transitional Government in Somalia, established following the Arta Conference in Djibouti, President Abdikasim Hassan Salad and his delegation paid a three-day visit to Ethiopia starting on 15 November 2000.

In the course of his visit the delegation held talks with Prime Minister Meles Zenawi and Foreign Minister Seyoum Mesfin.

During these talks Ethiopia affirmed that the Arta peace conference, which resulted in the establishment of the Transitional Government, constituted a major achievement in the Somali peace process.

Ethiopia recognizes that the peace process needs to be completed by bringing into the process the other Somali parties that did not participate at the Arta conference. The Ethiopian Government is encouraged that President Abdikasim and the Transitional Government in Somalia share this conviction.

During the discussions, it was affirmed by both sides that the peace process in Somalia should continue through dialogue and that only through dialogue can full national reconciliation be achieved.

The Ethiopian Government will continue to maintain contact with all parties in Somalia and to contribute further to the process of national reconciliation and unity.

The Ethiopian Government is encouraged by President Abdikasim Hassan Salad's assurance that the Transitional Government will do everything possible to remove all elements that use Somali territory as a springboard to threaten regional peace and stability and, in this regard, to cooperate with the concerned neighbouring countries.

The international community needs to support the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Somalia. Effective support could be rendered by direct assistance to the Transitional Government, as well as to the regions that have established peace and stability through self-administration.